

(19) **United States**(12) **Patent Application Publication** (10) **Pub. No.: US 2004/0066422 A1**
Chandane (43) **Pub. Date: Apr. 8, 2004**(54) **USER FRIENDLY SELECTION APPARATUS
BASED ON TOUCH SCREENS FOR
VISUALLY IMPAIRED PEOPLE****Publication Classification**(51) **Int. Cl.⁷** **G09G 5/00**(52) **U.S. Cl.** **345/865; 345/763**(75) **Inventor: Sanjiv Mahadeo Chandane, Pune (IN)**

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T. Rao Coca**IBM Corporation****Almaden Research Center****650 Harry Road****San Jose, CA 95120 (US)**(73) **Assignee: International Business Machines Corporation, Armonk, NY**(21) **Appl. No.: 10/264,981**(22) **Filed: Oct. 4, 2002**(57) **ABSTRACT**

A selection apparatus providing user friendly interface for visually impaired people. The selection apparatus may contain a touch screen and a guide structure. The guide structure is disposed along the touch buttons in the touch screen, and contains touch points corresponding to the touch buttons. The touch points are designed such that a different sensation is felt when a user slides an object (e.g., finger) along the selection structure. An exit may be designed to help lead the object from each touch point to corresponding touch button. Thus, a visually impaired person may slide a finger along the guide structure, feel a touch points and use the associated exit to locate a corresponding touch button.

